

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2003-356-E - ORDER NO. 2004-474

OCTOBER 7, 2004

IN RE: Petition of South Carolina Electric & Gas)	ORDER GRANTING
Company for a Certificate of Public)	PRELIMINARY RELIEF
Convenience and Necessity to Construct a)	
Distribution Line in Aiken County.)	

I. INTRODUCTION

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) for preliminary relief on the Petition of South Carolina Electric & Gas Company (SCE&G or the Company) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct a distribution line in Aiken County.

SCE&G originally petitioned for a Certificate to construct a primary, single-phase distribution line in Aiken County, South Carolina, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-27-1230 (1976) and S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-304(1). SCE&G states in its Petition that on or about November 20, 2003, Mr. Robert A. Goldman, President of Two Bob Enterprises, Inc. requested that SCE&G provide electric service to a new residential subdivision, Goldview Farms, in Aiken County, South Carolina. Goldview Farms subdivision is owned and being developed by Two Bob Enterprises, Inc. Goldview Farms consists of 259 acres and is entirely within territory assigned to SCE&G by the Commission pursuant to the Territorial Assignment Act, S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-27-

670, et seq. (1976). SCE&G commenced engineering work on this project immediately after receiving Mr. Goldman's request.

In order to provide electric service to Goldview Farms in the most efficient manner consistent with good utility practices, SCE&G states that it must construct a primary, single-phase distribution line approximately 7,100 feet along highway right-of-way through service territory assigned to Aiken Electric Cooperative (Aiken Coop.). This new line would extend from an existing line within SCE&G's territory and would be constructed entirely within highway right-of-way along SC Highway No. 19 and Shiloh Church Road to Goldview Farms. SCE&G has obtained from the South Carolina Highway Department all of the necessary permits in order to construct this line in highway right-of-way. According to SCE&G, the distribution line that SCE&G proposes to construct will remain within highway right-of-way for the entire distance it traverses territory assigned to Aiken Coop. SCE&G further states that it will not serve any customers in Aiken Coop.'s territory from this line. SCE&G does not and will not assert or claim that this line carriers or grants "corridor rights" to SCE&G.

The Company notes that the developer's immediate need for construction service necessitates SCE&G requesting that the Commission issue a preliminary order pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-27-1260 (1976) allowing SCE&G to proceed with construction of the distribution line pending a hearing, if one is deemed necessary, on the issuance of a final Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. SCE&G states that it will bear the financial risk of the construction pending any further proceeding on this

matter. SCE&G further notes that it has notified the only affected electric cooperative, Aiken Electric Cooperative, of its request for a Certificate.

At this time, the Company requests that this Commission issue a preliminary order pursuant to Section 58-27-1260 allowing SCE&G to proceed with construction of a single-phase, primary distribution line in territory assigned to Aiken Coop. within highway right-of-way along Highway 19 and Shiloh Church Road in Aiken County in order to provide electric service to Goldview Farms subdivision.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. SCE&G ultimately seeks a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct a primary, single-phase distribution line in Aiken County, South Carolina, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-27-1230(1976) and S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-304(1). The line would proceed within highway right-of-way along Highway 19 and Shiloh Church Road in Aiken County, South Carolina.

2. The line would provide electric service to a new residential subdivision, Goldview Farms, located in Aiken County, South Carolina.

3. SCE&G requests a preliminary order pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-27-1260 (1976) allowing the Company to proceed with construction of the distribution line pending a hearing, if one is deemed necessary, on the issuance of the Certificate.

4. SCE&G states that it will bear the financial risk of the construction pending any further proceeding on this matter.

5. The preliminary order is granted. The Company may proceed with construction of the line pending a hearing, if one is deemed necessary, on the issuance of the Certificate. SCE&G will bear the financial risk of the construction pending any further proceeding on this matter.

6. Any cost recovery by the Company shall be examined in a future rate case or other type rate proceeding.

III. ORDER

1. We grant a preliminary order for the construction of the line, pending a hearing, if one is deemed necessary. The Company may proceed at its own risk and will bear financial risk of the construction, pending any further proceeding on this matter.

2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

/s/
Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/
G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)